



E-NEWSLETTER

Student Advisor Summer Office Hours

From now until the end of August, the SGPS Student Advisors will hold regular office hours on Tuesdays from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. You can stop by the office to talk to an Advisor about any issue you face while studying at Queen's.

<http://www.sgps.ca/sa>

SGPS PROPERTY COMMITTEE

The SGPS is launching a temporary and exciting new committee: the SGPS Property Committee. We are interested in investigating the possibility of buying and handling property as a source of revenue for SGPS. We are seeking motivated individuals that will act as a resource in creating a housing authority, through recommendations of policy and financing options. This committee will create the foundation for SGPS in the investigation of property acquisition. Get involved! Contact Committee Coordinator, Laura Gale, at committee@sgps.ca

UNIVERSITY ANIMAL CARE COMMITTEE

The University Animal Care Committee (UACC) is seeking two conscientious graduate student representatives, one immediately and one commencing in August. The committee is mandated by the Animals for Research Act (OMAFRA), and the Canadian Council on Animal Care (CCAC) to ensure the welfare of animals in their procurement, care and use in researching, teaching, or testing at Queen's. Representatives will meet once a month for the review and approval of all protocols proposing the use of animals, as well as other various times throughout the year to accomplish other duties. The commitment involves a one-year term with a possibility for renewal. **To participate in this valuable opportunity, interested candidates should contact Committee Coordinator, Laura Gale at committee@sgps.ca by July 14th.** Please include a short description stating why you are interested in this position. Note: individuals with previous or current animal use experience are preferred.

THE SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES WEBSITE

If you want to help the SGS with improving their website, drop Colette a note (grad.recruitment@queensu.ca)! Before they go live with the new site (prior to September 2009), if any of you would like to volunteer to help be test users that would be awesome.

QUEEN'S ATHLETICS

In the article entitled WLU cuts funding for 8 varsity teams (June 20), it was reported that Queen's University will be reducing teams from 33 to 14. This is not the case - Queen's will not be reducing any teams at this time. We are able to maintain our support to teams as a result of increased fundraising support from team alumni, increased self-generated revenue within the department of Athletics and Recreation, and most importantly, two successful student referenda to increase current athletics and recreation fees. Queen's students overwhelmingly voted to increase their fee (over 90% support from undergraduates and over 80% support from graduate students) that will be phased in over the next 3 years. This clearly demonstrates the importance of physical activity, health and wellness on campus. This fall, Queen's will open a new state-of-the-art athletics and recreation facility - the Queen's Centre -- which will enhance the quality of campus life for years to come.

ROUNDING THE BASES FOR WHEELCHAIR SPORTS

A charity softball tournament is being organized by Kristiina Aasa and Joey Anstey, graduate students in the Department of Anatomy & Cell Biology. This co-ed 3 pitch softball tournament is in support of the Ontario Wheelchair Sports Association. The OWSA is a non-profit organization that supports the development and promotion of wheelchair athletes throughout Ontario in their pursuit of an active lifestyle and competitive amateur sport. OWSA athletes compete in Pan-Am Games, Paralympic Games, World Championships, and many regional and provincial competitions. We need your help in assisting wheelchair athletes around Ontario to fulfill their passions in amateur sport. Please join us in this fun-filled softball tournament.

Date/Time: August 1st and 2nd, 2009 9am-4:30pm

Location: Cloverdale Park, Kingston

Entry Fee: \$200/Team, Minimum 4 females and 4 males per team

Contact: For further details and registration please contact Joey Anstey or Kristiina Aasa by email at balltournament@gmail.com

Prizes for winning team, door prizes and 50/50 draw

Registration deadline July 27th, 2009



CFS MEDIA RELEASE

STUDENT RESPONSE TO ONTARIO CABINET SHUFFLE: MAJOR CHANGES NEEDED IN RESEARCH AND INNOVATION FUNDING

Toronto – Students are hopeful that the addition of Research and Innovation to the portfolio of the Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities, John Milloy, will signal a shift towards supporting basic research and expanding the Ontario Graduate Scholarship program (OGS).

“Graduate students are struggling with debt from previous degrees and sky-rocketing tuition fees,” said Federico Carvajal, Chairperson of the Ontario Graduate Caucus.

“The very least Milloy as the new Minister of Research and Innovation can do is increase funding to the Ontario Graduate Scholarship programme and tie further increases to enrolment growth.”

Over the past decade, federal and provincial research funding has been heavily weighed in favour of industry and commercial-driven areas of study. This leaves most Ontario graduate students unable to access this funding.

“Adequately funded research is essential to improving the future of Ontario’s economy and it’s society,” said Shelley Melanson, Chairperson of the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario. “It would be a shame if research into important issues like child poverty and immigration history were passed over because there isn’t a commercial potential for the results of such research.”

While graduate enrolment has increased by over 30 percent over the past four years, inadequate OGS levels have remained unchanged. Unless funding for the OGS is increased by 2010, less than four percent of graduate students will have access to this funding.

“It is our hope that Minister Milloy will take the opportunity of his new cabinet position to bring along badly-needed improvements to how research is funded in Ontario,” said Carvajal.

The Canadian Federation of Students–Ontario unites more than 300,000 college and university students across the province. The Ontario Graduate Caucus brings together more than 55,000 graduate students.

For more information please contact:

Shelley Melanson, CFS-Ontario Chairperson, 416-925-3825 or 416-882-9927 (cell)

Federico Carvajal, Ontario Graduate Caucus Chairperson, 613-851-2726 (cell)